

ABSTRACT

A television signal processing system, such as a set-top box and a personal video recorder, that handles both digital and legacy analog system can be simplified to minimize the required connections between system components. Digital signals are demultiplexed and recorded or decompressed and output to a television set. Analog signals are decoded, or converted to digital, and then compressed. The compressed signal can be demultiplexed and recorded or demultiplexed, decompressed and output to a television set. In either case, only a single connection is required between the processing circuitry and the television set, and between the processing circuitry and the signal recording circuitry and hardware.